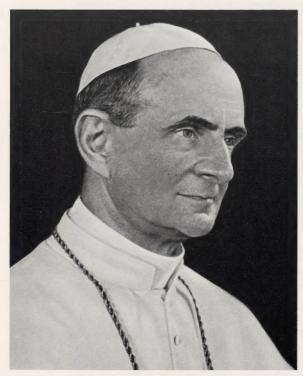


St. Mary's Church (Immaculate Conception)
Bedford, Ohio
June 21, 1970

# Our Source of Spiritual Direction

"For the nurturing and constant growth of the People of God, Christ the Lord instituted in his Church a variety of ministries, which work for the good of the whole body. For these ministries, there are some who are endowed with sacred power and serve their brethren, so that all who are of the People of God, may arrive at salvation."

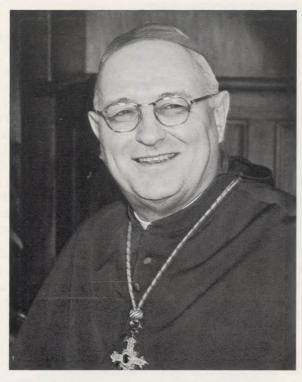
(Constitution on the Church)



His Holiness Pope Paul VI

And in order that the episcopate itself might be one and undivided, Christ placed blessed Peter over the other apostles, and instituted in him a permanent and visible source and foundation of unity of faith and communion.

And this teaching about the institution, the perpetuity, the meaning and reason for the sacred primacy of the Roman pontiff and of his infallible magisterium, this Sacred Council again proposes to be firmly believed by all the faithful. (Constitution on the Church)



Most Rev. Clarence G. Issenmann, STD, Bishop of The Diocese of Cleveland



Most Rev. William M. Cosgrove, DD Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland

With their helpers, the priests and deacons, bishops have therefore taken up the service of the community, presiding in place of God over the flock whose shepherds they are, as teachers of doctrine, priests of sacred worship, and officers of good order. Just as the role that the Lord gave individually to Peter, the first among the apostles, is permanent and was meant to be transmitted to his successors, so also the apostles' office of nurturing the Church is permanent, and was meant to be exercised without interruption by the sacred order of bishops. Therefore, this sacred Synod teaches that by divine institution bishops have succeeded to the place of the apostles as shepherds of the Church, and that he who hears them, hears Christ, while he who rejects them, rejects Christ and Him who sent Christ.

(Constitution on the Church)



Good Counsel

# Our Parish History

"I have planted, Apollos watered, but God has given the growth. So that neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the growth. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, yet each will receive his own reward according to his labor. For we are God's helpers, you are God's tillage, God's building." I Cor. 3:5-9

In the year 1905 Bishop Ignatius Horstmann, in his concern for some one hundred souls in the farmlands of the far southeast side of Cleveland, instructed Father John T. Carroll, the pastor of Holy Name Parish in Newburg, to consider the Bedford area as a mission to Holy Name. Masses were first offered at the old Shannon house on Willis Street. Almost immediately the house was not large enough to accommodate the people. The old town hall on Bedford Square was then used for Mass at a rental of \$1.00 each Sunday.

Through the modest donations and volunteer help of the people a church was erected on Paul Street between the years 1909 and 1910. The greatest helping hand in this endeavor came from the wealthy Schneider family who donated four lots and \$500.00. A special collection (subscription) netted \$1,800 toward the \$4,000 building.

The Schneider farm consisted of all the lands the Vincentian sisters now occupy together with much of the surrounding area plus the whole block of Paul and Union Street. The Schneider family also owned the Best Foundry at the corner of Northfield and Forbes Road. Many of the early parishioners worked there.

The church also served as a school. A folding partition divided the church from the school on school days. Mary Collins was the first teacher. She taught all eight grades (45 children in all) at twenty-five dollars a month plus \$2.50 car fare.

St. Mary's remained a mission until 1921. One of the most noteworthy priests of Holy Name who assisted at the mission was Father William Gallena. In his efforts to know the flock he learned the predominant language among them, Hungarian. He began the first record book we have on hand—the baptismal book. Rose Killoran (nee Szaraz) was baptized on March 5, 1910. Gizella Hrdlicka (nee Vargo) was baptized May 8, 1910. Other priests who baptized and offered Mass in this mission era of St. Mary's were Father Ed Conry, Father Dan Gallagher and Father John Carrabine.

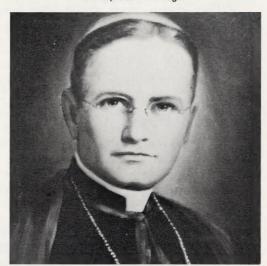
On Sunday, July 10, 1921, a thirty-one year young priest drove his one-seater Ford roadster out Broadway, turned right onto Northfield and then made another quick left onto Paul Street. There in front of St. Mary's church, parishioners, together with the parish band, greeted the first resident pastor of St. Mary's, Father John R. Hagan. He had a check for \$5,132.69 in his pocket from Father O'Connell of Holy Name, a gift from the mother parish.

The collection from that first Sunday was \$29.00. Father's first cash expenditure was for some furniture for a house which he rented from Steve Szaraz, Sr. at \$40.00 a month. This house still stands as the Dvorak home at the corner of Northfield and Union. Father kept George Drabik on hand as janitor at \$20.00 a month. Mr. Drabik even to this present day opens and

Monsignor William Gallena



Bishop John R. Hagan





Exterior view of 1910 Church-School Combination.



Interior view of the Church part of the 1910 building.



Front of wooden-frame School building of 1921.



Spiritual Vessel

locks the church and takes care of the vigil lights.

Father Hagan, who would later become the Superintendent of schools and then Bishop, immediately began the erection of a frame building. The wooden frame school building served as the parish school until 1928. Its total cost of around \$9,000 necessitated a \$4,000 loan from Central National Bank. Thus was the beginning of the debt at St. Mary's.

On the payroll for this new school were Frank Washko, a young amateur architect; J. Garrett, J. Kollar, Ed Nagy, Ed Toth, Robert Masten, John Gecci, Stephen Lendvai, P. Shantic, S. Zavodny and others.

George Horvath and John Balog gave of their time and equipment in clearing and digging the foundation for the new building. Two classrooms with a hall and part time kitchen in the middle made up the upstairs. The downstairs consisted of the lavatories and a very small social hall. Only the first six grades were taught in our school. The seventh and eighth graders went to Moody. The Ursuline Sisters commuted daily to St. Mary's. It was a long day for Sisters Lucine and Sebastian as they left the motherhouse at 55th and Woodland in the wee hours of the morning. First, it was the trolley from 55th and Woodland to 55th and Broadway. There the Sisters transferred to another trolley that left them off at Miles where they caught the ABC interurban. A good hour and a half later, they would arrive at Stop 26 (now the light at Union and Northfield Roads). Sisters Leo, Kevin, Emelda, Paschal, Richard, Ralph and Muriel trail-blazed the pioneer days of our school.

Sisters Celine and Alice Marie at the special request of the pastor came out to help with the singing. The last school year for the Ursuline Sisters was 1927-28. Sister Ralph taught grades 1-2-3 (67 children) and Sister Muriel taught almost the same number of students in the 4-5-6 grades. All this love and sacrifice for \$85.00 a month was indeed a blessing for St. Mary's.

The wooden school building after 1928 was pressed into use time and again because of the need for more classroom space. The addition of the new wing onto the brick school in 1957 spelled the demise of the frame building. It was dismantled and sold to make room for more parking. This was one of the first undertakings of Father Karper.

Father Richard Brennan, the liturgy and dogma teacher at St. Mary's Seminary was appointed pastor October 31, 1923. Father John Fecko had been administrator for the last three months as Father Hagan recuperated from illness before taking the reins as Superintendent of schools. Father Brennan was much more at home as a teacher but in his two short years here he expanded parish properties and land. He bought the rectory from a Mr. Frank Kral for \$9,700 and \$500 for the land. Father borrowed \$9,500 from St. Ignatius Church in Cleveland at 6% interest to help pay for it. In September of that same year of 1924 Father purchased for \$2,500 the whole block of land which takes in the corner of Northfield and Union Streets. In September of 1925, Father Brennan was made pastor of St. Bridget's in Cleveland. Father taught at St. Mary's Seminary most of his life and after a very short term as pastor of St.

Vincent's in Akron he became ill. He ended his days at Notre Dame College in Cleveland.

The rectory has had two major additions over the years. During Father Shaefer's time four rooms and a porch were added. Around 1958, Father Karper built over the porches an extension of the pastor's quarters and an extra large room for another assistant. Father was looking for a second assistant and needed room to house him. Father's wish was fulfilled in 1961 when Father Danko came. The rectory presently takes care of all parish business and houses the pastor, two assistants and a housekeeper in a rather crammed but comfortable way.

Father George Stuber was appointed pastor of St. Mary's on October 8, 1925. During Father's tenure the Altar and Rosary Society was established as was the Holy Name and Parent-Teacher Unit. Some of the first officers of these societies were: Mrs. Logan Clark, Mrs. Boehm, Mary Grimm, Mrs. Carrie Venditti, Mr. Fred Vincent and Mrs. George Koch. Father was a great organizer. He soon contemplated and then undertook the building of the new brick church and school combination. Monsignor Pfeil laid the cornerstone on May 27, 1928. The \$65,000 building had four classrooms upstairs and a church downstairs with a capacity of 500 seats. The old church became the parish hall.

After the Schatzinger Estate on Schneider Hill had been given to the Cleveland Diocese in the summer of 1927, Bishop Schrembs invited the Vincentian Sisters of Charity of Perrysville, Pennsylvania to establish their community Motherhouse on the recently donated property. As a result, the teaching faculty of St. Mary's

changed hands from the Ursuline to the Vincentian sisters. Their close association with the learning life of St. Mary's remains to this present day. For the teaching year of 1928-29, Sister Dorothy with her staff of Sisters Egidia, Delores, Ephrem taught 160 children in the seven grade, four classroom brick church and school combination. The first official eighth grade graduation class was in 1930, nine boys and five girls. Some of the boys were: Emil Biros, Frank Drabik, Vincent Parish, Charles Dalton and J. Maurice Weber.

Parish activity was bountiful in these days. The financial report for the year 1929 shows that parish entertainment grossed \$4,472.45. This was over 50% of the gross Sunday collection which netted \$6,948.35. Besides the many parish dances, of which the St. Stephen's Day dance was an annual event, there was the "Bunko" and "Pedro" card parties. The Shannons, Schwinds and Melillo's put on annual St. Patrick's Day entertainment. During Father Stuber's time the 6th annual entertainment was presented before more than a thousand people at the Bedford High School Auditorium. Such stars as Anna Szaraz (nee Dvorak), Natalie Stadler (nee Nyerges), Betty Walton (nee Fanchally) and Mae Schwind showed St. Mary's as quite a "melting pot" of nationalities.

An insight into the amiable and yet very just Father Stuber can be seen from his comments on the landscaping of the parish grounds in 1929. "The following have given their labor towards this project: Frank Washko, John Boehm, Gust Zavodny, George Yorko, George Rickelman, W. J. Wickson, Stanley Backlay,



Mother of Divine Grace

Mother of Christ

William Nagy, Mike Yorko, Mike and John Yaros and George Drabik, etc." After the rather long list of names, we read: "No help was given except by those whose names are here above recorded. The critics and knockers of all parish activities, as usual, did not help and were absent during all the five to six weeks." Father Stuber left St. Mary's in July of 1931 to be the pastor of Immaculate Conception in Avon. He retired from there in 1952 and is now living at 17436 Northwood Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio.

The saintly Father John Price came to St. Mary's from Chardon. All ten of his years here at St. Mary's were dedicated to the growth of holiness in his people. Father was a good musician. He played trumpet and was a wonderful pianist. He started the parish band in 1932 with forty five members, some of whom were: Clarence Stadler, Kay and Jerry Fanchally, Mike Drabik and Gizella Washko. This gave the children something to do during the depression years. He also kept his award winning chickens in the basement of the old wooden frame school, then used for storage. During hard times, he, with the help of the people was able to reduce the parish debt to \$38,000. The councilmen who signed the financial statement of Father's last year here in 1941 were Emil Richka, George Drabik, John Schmitt, Louis Blaha, Timothy Daly and Clarence Stadler. Father's pastorates have always been under the patronage of Mary; St. Mary's Chardon, Bedford and Akron. Father left St. Mary's in 1941 to become a Chaplain in the U.S. Army. Upon his return in 1946, he was made pastor of St. Mary's in Akron. He is now retired and spending his days in St. Edward's Nursing Home in Akron.

Between May to October 1941, Father Milo Dalton, Chaplain of the State Hospital, took temporary charge of the parish.

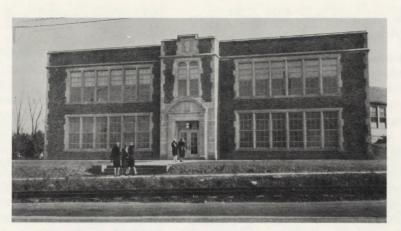
On October 15 of that same year, St. Mary's was blessed with the presence of the warmhearted, colorful and very German Father Peter Shaefers, who was to be the shepherd of the flock of St. Mary's for the next sixteen years. Bishop Schrembs brought Father from Germany in 1928. Father's ability as a musician was quickly put to use by the Bishop. He was assigned to St. John's Cathedral where he was head organist. Father had a Doctorate in Music from Munich. He composed Masses, two of which are still sung here-"Mass in Honor of St. Michael" and "Mass of the Holy Ghost". In 1939 Father was so well recognized throughout the Diocese that he was appointed director of the school for Catholic organists.

Father was very open to all people. Many a person met Father through the opening words, "Und so who do we have here". Although Father knew the English language well and was rarely known to misspell a word, he did have some unique expressions. The "bottlenecks" at Union and Northfield were called "bottletops". He talked about "paralyzed" streets instead of "parallel" streets. In one of his first Christmas eve's here, he asked Mary Drabik (Mrs. Riley) to play "Gingerbells".

Father loved to entertain. Since he had served as a Chaplain in the German army in the First World War he had a great appreciation for anyone serving in the Armed forces. If he saw a boy in uniform at Mass he would invite him for breakfast at the rectory. The 1943 "status"



Monsignor Richard E. Brennan



School-Church brick combination of 1928.



Father Stuber with the Schwind boys in the front of their home at Broadway and Tryon.

Sister Ralph behind the wooden frame School with her 1st Grade Class of 1928.



Sister Aloysius behind the brick School with her 5th and 6th Grade Class of 1935.





Tower of David

animarum" has the note that 230 parishioners were in the service.

Another interesting point: There were three Masses on Sunday at 7, 9 and 11 A.M. Then in 1941 a 6:00 and 12:00 were added for the benefit of those working in the defense plants, especially Jack & Heintz. There were two familiar faces at the 9:00 and 12:00 Masses. Monsignor Basil Haren, Professor historian at St. John's College and Chaplain for the Vincentian Sisters always celebrated the 9:00 Mass. Monsignor John Gallagher, then Spiritual Director and Liturgy Professor at St. Mary's Seminary and now Pastor of St. William's Church in Euclid, always said the 12:00 Mass.

Through the combined efforts of Father Shaefers and Father Clark, ecumenism started early in Bedford. There wasn't a week or two gone by that one of the ministers from the area was not invited to lunch at the rectory.

One of Father's good friends was the Methodist minister, Reverend Scott. Father went through a lot of effort to move his organ to the Masonic Hall in downtown Bedford to play a recital there. Good food and good music as well as all the other good things of God's creation are not just Catholic but they are truly catholic.

In 1945 St. Mary's went into the school bus business. \$7,700 was used to purchase a bus and to build a garage for it. Little would people realize but St. Mary's is the mother parish from which the following parishes were born: St. Jude—1945, St. Monica—1952, St. Pius X—1952, St. Barnabas—1956, St. Martin of Tours—1960, Sts. Cosmas and Damian—1963,

Holy Trinity—1965 and Our Lady of Guada-lupe—1967.

There were many students who were dropped off for school at 7:00 in the morning and then picked up at 5:00 in the evening. Some students walked a good three miles to school. The school bus helped alleviate some of these problems. Father Clark and Jim Phalen, Jr. were the first drivers. The twenty-five mile run took one hour in the morning and another at night.

Father John Clark, who would be Father's right hand man for the next twelve years, arrived on the scene in October of 1944 as the first assistant of St. Mary's. Actually Father Clark's major assignment was as Chaplain at Hawthornden Hospital. He said Mass there on Sunday and heard confessions on Saturday. In taking care of the eighteen cottages, Father Clark had some thirty Communion calls each day. Father's picture was taken with Bishop Hoban on March 13, 1955. This was the day the Bishop dedicated and blessed the Hawthornden Chapel.

Together Father Shaefers and Father Clark experienced the greatest growth period of St. Mary's history. For instance, for the 1947 school year, the four classrooms in the church-school brick combination were not facilities enough to take care of 343 children, so two rooms of the original school frame building were renovated by John Donaldson, John Kohn and others. Seven Vincentian Sisters taught in the six rooms that year. They were: Sister Mary Anne, Sister Mary Raymond, Sister Mary Matthew, Sister Mary Eleanore, Sister Mary Laura Ann and Sister Mary Genevieve.

With great joy, Father Shaefers could write on

the financial report of 1950 "financial debt none". However, the pastor and assistant who were always known to be available for the spiritual and physical well being of the parishioners were faced with a "crammed" church as well as almost 500 children seeking a Catholic education.

As a result, they were immediately faced with that great ever present drudge and drain of priestly energy, the expansion of the parish plant. A building campaign, bazaars, raffles (one year — four cars) tax stamp collections and constant interruptions from building contractors were all necessary as the parish rallied all of its resources to pay for the new addition at a cost of \$180,000.

The new church, which now is our Social Center, was used for the first time on Easter Sunday 1951. The old church, which was built by Father Stuber, was now converted into three classrooms. The furnishing of the new addition plus the blacktopping of the parking lot with playground equipment, all contributed to the rise of the new debt.

Another crisis year for St. Mary's was the school year of 1956-57. School enrollment jumped to 682 students. There were eleven Vincentian Sisters and two lay teachers with thirteen classrooms in use. Some of the sisters who taught during this era were: Sister Mary Gregory, Sister Mary George, Sister Mary Barbara Ann, Sister Mary Ignatius Loyola, Sister Mary Ann Louise, Sister Mary Mark, Sister Mary Dennis, Sister Mary Leona, Sister Mary Aloysius, Sister Miriam Joseph, Sister Mary Raymond and Sister Mary Matthew.

To give you an idea of "crammed" space, there were two classrooms in the 1910 building; two classrooms in the 1921 wooden frame building of Father Hagan's time; four classrooms in the upstairs of the church school brick combination of 1928; three classrooms in the converted church section of the 1928 building and one classroom in the room below the sacristy of the 1951 church.

During this school year a new wing facing Paul Street was added on to the school brick combination. This new wing cost \$198,000. To make room for the new addition, the old frame building of Father Hagan's time was dismantled and the ravages of time swallowed up another landmark.

Shortly after his retirement in June of 1957, Father Shaefer returned to his home town in Nottuln, Westphalia, Germany. He was Chaplain there for the Sisters of Notre Dame. His sister belonged to that order. As Mary would have it, Father died on her Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception in 1962. A final tribute to Father is this observation of one of the parishioners: "Father knew everyone and helped everyone. The St. Vincent de Paul Society had less work in his day because he was a walking Vincent de Paul."

A year later Father Clark left St. Mary's to become pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish. He is presently pastor of St. Paul's Parish in Akron.

Father Albert Karper began his first pastorate here at St. Mary's on June 13, 1957. For the next nine years his humble task would be to eliminate the parish debt of \$270,000 before



Singular Vessel of Devotion



Mother Most Chaste

being transferred as pastor of St. Mary's parish in Mentor.

Father worked hard in every facet of parish life. He personally wrote the parish bulletin in an effort to keep his people informed on Catholic teaching and to encourage them to grow in the spiritual life. As a graduate of dogmatic theology from Innsbruck and as a teacher from St. Mary's, Lorain; St. Stephen's and Holy Name, Father was well qualified for this challenge.

To strengthen his hopes for obtaining a second assistant, he added onto the rectory. He changed the second floor porches into living quarters for the priests.

He quickly regrouped the brother Vincentians of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Their membership consisted of: Clarence Stadler, George Drabik, Joe Cheslock, Ted Bartelheim, Earl Chambers, Ray Bernaciak, Jim Phalen.

To provide a better relationship between parents and teachers, he reorganized the Parent-Teacher Unit in 1958 and worked closely with the members and officers. PTU Presidents who served during his time were: Mary Bell, Mary Lou Tomko, Rose Sochacki, Kay Novak, Jean Varga and Janet Worley.

In order that the sisters could become more orientated toward parish life and, with the hope then, that they would also be more actively involved in the parish, he undertook the building of the convent on Paul Street. In April of 1963 our sisters moved into their new home. The building cost was \$60,000 but was estimated at \$127,000. Much praise must be given to those

priests, men and women who generously donated their time and labor toward this project. Some of the famous volunteer workers were: Pete Scimone, Ron DePompei, Frank Navarra, Tom McGrath, Frank Oschmann, Frank Basa, Ray Bernaciak, Matt Zallar, Matt Zimmerman, Mose Tomko, Steve Mariola, Ed Kohn, Bob Rickelman, Ray Slaby, Fred Navarra, Earl Miller, Richard Jorkasky, Phil Battaglia and others. They say that one of the expensive items for the continuance of the project was "fuel" for the workers. Rumor has it that anyone of the workers can tell you exactly where the "fuel containers" are.

The Missionary Cenacle Apostolate was formed in 1964 under the guidance of Father Karper. This Apostolate consisted of a group of approximately twelve women who tried to form their own spiritual life through prayer and study together with working for the poor and needy in the parish. Mary Lou Tomko was the presiding officer of this group.

Father helped the people realize the need for supporting their parish through the Offertory Collection rather than depending upon raffles and bazaars. With a well founded hope that all of the parishioners would tithe and give their fair share in the collection, he discontinued the annual bazaar in 1963. The special parish development envelope, it was hoped, would net even more than the \$18,000 that the parish bazaar realized each year. His faith in the parishioners was well placed. For the first years there was a response with a rise in the collection almost equal to the income of the previous bazaars.

Father liked to look upon the social life of



Fathers Shaefers, Price, Haren and Clark at the Solemn High Mass at the Silver Jubilee of the parish in 1946.



Msgr. John A. Gallagher



Bishop Hoban and Fr. Clark at the dedication of Hawthornden State Hospital Chapel on March 13, 1955.



May crowning in 1936. Fr. Price with the Sodality and Page Boys.



Inside of Church-School brick combination in year of 1947.



Mother of Our Savior

the parish as the gathering of the Christian Community for recreation. This was his whole intent behind the formation of the Social and Recreational Council.

This council was formed in 1962. It was made up of representatives from the Holy Name, PTU and Ladies Guild. Some of the members who served on this council were: Ronnie and Helen DePompei, Jerry and Delores Patterson, Robert and Mary Rickelman, Tom and Jean McGrath and Ann Phalen. There were many others who assisted this group in carrying out their programs. There were bowling parties each month alternating between Mary Strizzi's and Pete Scimone's lanes. The parish bowling league grew out of the program. Father Karper could always be found at the alleys every Monday night. One of the nicest things that developed from this council was the Summer Fun Festival held on the playground each year. It was planned as a time for priests and people to meet and visit with each other. Everyone just enjoyed themselves singing, dancing, eating and drinking with one another. They say that there was a featured group one year of the Fathers Three - Karper, Danko and Drops.

When Father Karper celebrated his 30th Ordination Anniversary in 1964, the Council made it a most memorable occasion for Father and his family with a program entitled, "A Night in Vienna".

In April of 1966, Father went to St. Mary's in Mentor and is presently pastor of St. Boniface on the West Side.

Father Michael Ondik succeeded Father Clark in June of 1957. He conducted a very successful

Bazaar that year and was responsible for introducing the Adult Education Program to St. Mary's. He was transferred to St. Timothy's in June of 1958. He is now pastor of Holy Trinity in Ayon.

Father Francis Paik came to St. Mary's in June of 1958. He immediately turned his attention to the needs of the high school students. He directed the CCD program with the assistance of Father Karper, Russ Mone, John Kohn, Louise Weber, Ann Phalen and Chuck Morelli. To make sure that many of our students could get to Catholic High Schools, he saw to the purchase of our present school bus for \$8,000. In the tradition of St. Mary's assistants, Father Paik drove the bus. Father was in charge of the Holy Name and with the leadership of Joe Mazzone, Bill Collins and Ed Schwet, the fifty-fifty club was highly successful. In April of 1961, the Nocturnal Adoration program was begun. It was first in the hands of Jack Bertsch and is presently carried on by Hank Mazur. Father was very active in all of the programs of the Social and Recreational Council and spent much time working on the new convent building. To this day, no one has been able to find the lefthanded hammer that Father used in his work.

Father Joseph Danko was assigned to St. Mary's in June of 1961. Until his sudden death of a heart attack in 1965, Father gave of himself completely to the people of God of St. Mary's. If someone was sick at home — he was there. If someone needed food — he was there. If someone was lonely and needed a visitor — he was there. He truly fulfilled the role of the Good Shepherd — "I know mine and mine know me".

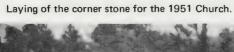




Our Sisters in front of the Convent.

Father Michael J. Ondik

Father Albert A. Karper





Interior of our 1951 Church.



The foundation digging for the new school wing in early 1957.





Mother Inviolate

Color among God's people is just a reflection of the multitudiness of God's perfections — were his feelings. To show his appreciation of this fact, Father was the founder and program director of the Southeast Human Relations Council, an organization to promote interracial understanding. Father introduced the Cursillo movement to St. Mary's parish.

Father George Drops was the first newly ordained priest assigned to St. Mary's. He began his work in June of 1963. In his quiet saintly way he could be found everywhere - leading the singing at Mass, running and playing with the children on the playground, continuing Father Danko's work among the Cursillistas of the parish, directing the CCD program for the first to eighth grades and teaching and directing the girls at Lumen. He began the Christian Family Movement and the Young Christian Students. This latter group was very effective in the organization of the pre-school religion program for the children on Sunday mornings. Father was transferred in October, 1969 and now gives his stable, dedicated services to the people of Holy Family in Parma.

Father Michael O'Boyle came to St. Mary's in June of 1965. Father was very ecumenical-minded and became active in the Southeast Clergy Conference. Father O'Boyle and Father Drops worked together on census. They formulated a questionnaire which was geared to giving us the knowledge as to the religious, educational, occupational and familial background of our people. A census card was then printed to match this questionnaire. We are still working on the census which they began. Father O'Boyle loved

to sing and play the guitar. He gave lessons on the guitar at the Y.M.C.A. and to the school children here at St. Mary's. On March 19, 1968 he was transferred to Annunciation Parish. From there he went for further studies and is now associate pastor of Holy Name Parish.

On the warm morning of April 28, 1966, Father Joseph Buescher moved into the rectory at 300 Union Street after seven years of his first pastorate at St. Peter's in Loudonville. Since his ordination in May of 1934, Father has always given himself completely to the flock he was to serve. For the first two years, there was the enjoyable work of getting to know the parishioners which was fast making itself known as the people of God of St. Mary's parish.

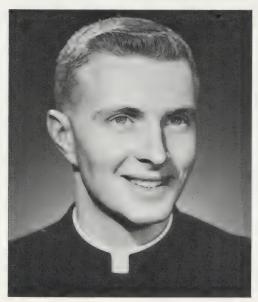
Our people were ready to read the scripture at Mass, to comment at Mass and take an active part in all phases of Liturgical worship. Our people were ready to take a more prominent role in assisting the pastor in administrative decisions and a parish council was formed for that very purpose in June of 1968. With foresight, patience, perseverence and docility, those staple commodities of a man of prudence and fortitude, Father not only recognized the need for a true house of worship, but in four short years he fulfilled this need with the construction of our Church. Two years were spent in discussion, one year in planning and another in construction.

Under Father's direction, the 1950 temporary church which was built with vision to someday being made into a Social Center has also reached its original determination.



Father Francis M. Paik

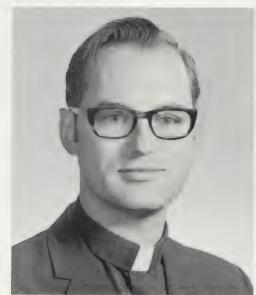
Father Michael J. O'Boyle





Father Joseph M. Danko







Father George J. Drops

Father George F. Bailey





Queen of Virgins

Together with the thousand decisions that have to be made in regard to the physical aspects of a parish, Father is also faced with the constant effort of exhorting, entreating, administering and directing the faithful to a growth in holiness.

In 1960 there were 150 students in our Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes both high and grade school. Now in both programs there are over 500 students. Father Gonser has given much effort to reorganizing and enlivening the CCD High School program now held at Lumen Cordium High School on Monday evenings.

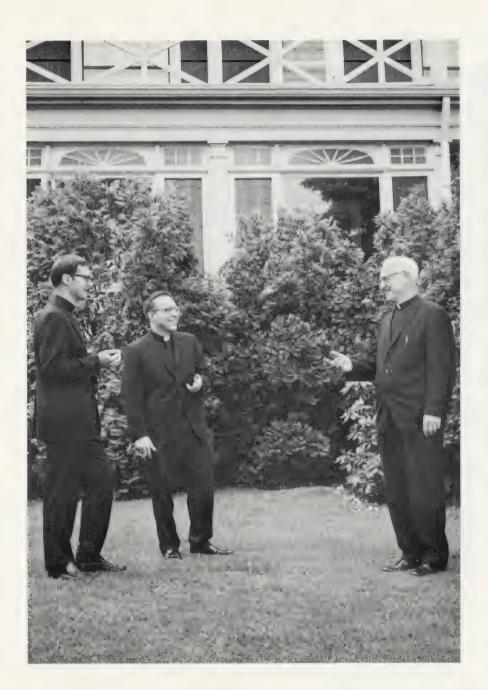
In 1958 there were nine sisters and four lay teachers with a combined salary of \$14,500. Today we have seven sisters and nine lay teachers with a combined salary of over \$50,000. It is the pastor of the church who is also the pastor of the school, who somehow must find a way to manage. With strong faith, encouraging hope and ardent charity, Father continues on in this Post Vatican II era. Father Gonser and Father Bailey as associate pastors work closely with Father Buescher in every facet of the pastoral work among the people of God of St. Mary's.

First, there is the liturgical life of the parish that thrives on variety for we are many members. Liturgy encompasses all of the public worship of the people of God from Novena, Stations, Benediction, Holy Hour and parish High Mass to home Masses, penetential liturgies,

special community evening Masses and Mass with guitar accompaniment. In the second place, comes Christian growth in grace and truth as found in the stable parish societies such as the Holy Name, Ladies Guild, the PTU and the CYO. New growth is encouraged in new forms such as the Cursillo, the Search, Adult Education programs and spiritual renewals. Thirdly, there is the Christian education of youth in our day school, Sunday school and Monday evening school. The principle aims of our school are not only to make the students fit citizens of this world but even more so to introduce them into a knowledge of the mystery of salvation that they may daily grow more conscious of the gift of faith which they have received and that they may learn to adore God the Father in Spirit and in truth, especially through liturgical worship.

Our hope and prayer is that his goal is truly being attained in all of us. One in Christ, worshipping the Father, with the Love of the Holy Spirit.

As this part of our history from 1905 to 1970 is concluded, we would be remiss if we did not recognize that all of what we have today is the result of the hard work and conscientious efforts of many, many persons. Some have been forgotten by us but all have been remembered by God. Their loving sacrifices have not gone by unrewarded. We thank God that these people lived, loved and worked within our parish. The parish is the people gathered around their priests. St. Mary's is what it is today because of the priests and people of St. Mary's.



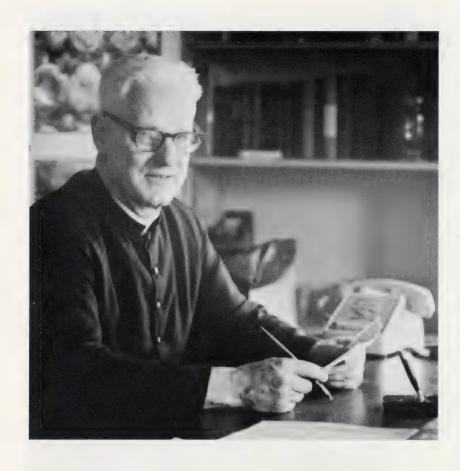


Secretary - Mary Lou Tomko



Joe Starnoni

John Biennas



A Message From Our Pastor In the first days of the Church the Christians were struggling for existence, and even later on had to hide from persecutors. Today, however, we are a free, jubilant, large Church, that with joy, beauty and goodly numbers can gather in a House of God that befits His majesty, to offer Him worship through sacrifice and prayer.

Now, at this time of completion and dedication of a new church, we thank God for the chance to dedicate this church with the cooperation of the people of God of St. Mary's parish and with the grace of the Bishop of our Diocese. May this edifice always be a place of and an inspiration to prayer and worship of our Almighty God.

We extend our thanks to Bishop Issenmann who gave the inspiration and permission to begin this work, and to Bishop Cosgrove who has come to solemnize the dedication of this new altar like the angel of the Apocalypse with his censer of gold. May Christ be pleased with this home and may the sacrifices offered here always be received by the Father in heaven with pleasure and satisfaction for His children on earth.

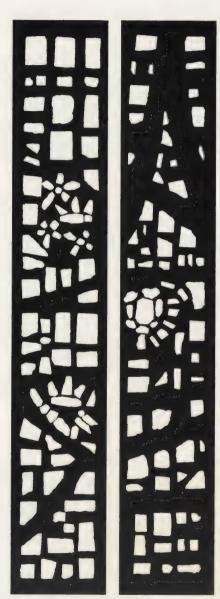
As in the first building days of the parish, so today our men are again building towards the complete parish plant. Another step has also been accomplished in the remodelling of the area formerly used as our church. A parish needs many buildings, much space, to meet all the requirements of man in the service of God. Worship is first and by far the most important. Education is not far behind and the social aspect of human nature must not be ignored.

May God grant us the grace of perseverance and the fullness of his gifts to continue the development of our life on earth that we may gain the reward of Heaven. We pray for the willingness of the people to continue the phenomenal growth of St. Mary's Parish.

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior....

Because He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His Name."

(Luke 1, 47-49)

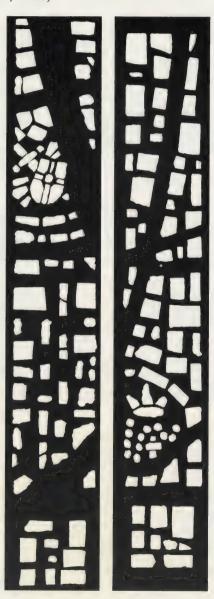


Queen Assumed into Heaven Queen Conceived without Original Sin Mirror of Justice



"Enraptured by the splendor of your heavenly beauty, and impelled by the anxieties of the world, we cast ourselves into your arms, O Immaculate Mother of Jesus and our Mother Mary, confident of finding in your most loving heart appearement of our ardent desires, and a safe harbor from the tempests which beset us on every side."

(Marian Year Prayer 1954)



Virgin Most Powerful Queen of the Most Holy Rosary



# Our Church in Construction

The building of a new church must start with the consideration of the needs. Expansion was necessary in St. Mary's parish. A new hallgymnasium or a new church was the problem. Since the changes in the Liturgy and the more intimate concept of offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, a modern church to suit this Liturgy was strongly favored, especially since the church building that served St. Mary's people for almost twenty years could so easily and nicely accommodate a gym and social room.

First consideration in planning the new church was the present and future needs. It was decided that a seating for about 800 persons would be wise and adequate. If the territory grew beyond that a new parish should be organized off St. Mary's. Secondly, the location had to be marked out. In the words of Bishop Issenmann, "If you do not have the perfect site, go with the best you have." The lots of the property that the parish owned were a bit shallow for the conventional type church. This forced us to design a shallow church but wider than usual. We started with a very square design, then through a long evolution, came up with the elongated hexagon you see today. It was with the help of Divine grace that we arrived at a design which is meeting the new Liturgy so nicely.

Various materials were viewed and considered for both exterior and interior. The use of a steel superstructure in the best modern engineering is the skeleton. The beautiful Lumen Cordium High School, located so close by, influenced the exterior. The hip-roof was chosen as most practical in this climate. For the interior, both modern and traditional materials were combined to attain a new concept without shocking the acceptable ideas of what a church should be. Wood paneling, spaced with precast columns give an appearance of strength and warmth. Light was kept subdued to inspire prayer and keep out distractions as much as possible. The expansive domed ceiling is to help raise thoughts heavenward.

Construction began on December 16, 1968. That winter was very mild and kind to our contractors. A minimum of difficulty was experienced in programming materials. Consequently, we were able to offer the first Holy Mass on December 8, 1969, the feast of the Patroness of the parish. The formal moving of the old church into the new was done mainly with the aid of the school children in a solemn procession of the Blessed Sacrament and blessing of church and altars on December 12. From this date on, all services have been in this new House of God.



























# Our New Church

The center of Christian worship is the sacrifice of the Mass. Christ our Prophet, Priest and King renews daily the paschal mystery on our altars in this new and everlasting covenant. Christ our prophet speaks through the word of sacred scripture and His consecrated people. Prominent, therefore, to the left of the altar is the pulpit (ambo). It is significant that in our church the lectors and priests read and explain the word of God from the same place. It shows that both priest and people share together in their witnessing and living the word of God among men. In fact both of them are consecrated by Baptism and Confirmation to do that specific prophet work for Christ. To show that the priest is consecrated even more especially to doing God's prophetic work only a person who has received Holy Orders may read the Gospel. The sign element is the important thing here.

The chair (scamnum) which is also seen left to the altar, is the place from which the priest president directs the Liturgy of the Word. The priest is no longer called the celebrant of the Mass because all of the people of God celebrate the Mass. However, he is called the president, because by virtue of the Sacrament of Holy Orders he shares in a special way in the Kingship of Christ, by directing the People of God in their eternal salvation.

The Altar of Repose, which is to the back of the sanctuary, is the altar upon which the tabernacle is placed and wherein the Blessed Sacrament is preserved for the special prayers, devotions and visits of our people outside of Mass. The sanctuary lamps on either side of the tabernacle and Altar of Repose tell us that Christ the light of the world and the glowing furnace of Charity is present in the tabernacle.

The Altar of Sacrifice which is to the front of the sanctuary is the place where the Liturgy of the Eucharist is performed, renewed, represented and re-enacted. Here the People of God through the mediatorship of Christ present in His priest offer themselves to the Father. Through this pleasing sacrifice acceptable to the Father the Eternal Godhead, in turn, bestows spiritual gifts to us the children of God. First, there is the gift of God Himself in the Blessed Sacrament, received in Holy Communion. Secondly, there is the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's presence of love and peace in the true children of God who worship Him in spirit and in truth. The reason the priest faces the people and the reason the Altar of Sacrifice resembles a table is to bring home to us the fact that the Mass is also a sacred meal (banquet) wherein the People of God meet their God in joy and adoration. They share God's love and peace among themselves while ever thanking and petitioning Him for the wonderful gifts He has brought to man. A meal together has always symbolized love and friendship.

Well aware that wherever the faithful gathered around an altar with their priest, a true sacrifice of worship was offered, it soon became manifest to the People of God that it was most appropriate to have a special place of assembly where this most holy activity could take place. The Greek word for assembly is "ecclesia" which translated today means church. A church then is a special place where the People of God assemble to perform TOGETHER special acts of

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.



Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.



Mother Undefiled

worship which today as always is called the Liturgy.

Our Church was designed to fulfill the worshipping needs of our people. The pews surround the altar with a radius of 190 degrees and a depth of 180 feet. The idea is to have everyone gathered around the altar and close enough to it to actually participate in the liturgical actions. The heights of the ceiling (40 feet at the highest point) and the slant of the ceiling together with the five speakers were designed so that all without effort could hear the prayers of the liturgy.

The organ and choir are situated in the front in a place of prominence and leadership where they not only add solemnity with specialized singing but also help the people in song.

The Sorrowful Mother Shrine with its vigil lights aids the private devotion of our people as they come to the realization that we have not here a lasting home and that as a pilgrim people we must unite our sufferings with Christ following the example of our Mother Mary.

The Holy Family Shrine exhorts our families to persevere in following in the footsteps of the Holy Family. Every family in our parish is called to holiness. It is hoped that frequent prayer and meditation at this shrine will help them to achieve this end.

The stations of the cross visualize for us the sufferings of Christ. As Christians we must share in His sufferings if we are to share in the joys of the resurrection.

The confessionals remind us that we are a sinful people and have a need for reconciliation with God and our neighbor if we are to be truly joyful worshipers of the Father.

Notice the procession with the processional cross. The procession with Christ our standard bearer reminds us that we are to follow in the footsteps of Christ and that it is through Him, with Him and in Him that we share in the salvific work of our heavenly Father. There is to be one cross in the sanctuary and ideally this is to be the processional cross and so it is in our church.

the focus of our worship...

... Sacraments, Devotions, Liturgy









### We are born in Christ

The Baptistry is located in the center of the church just before one enters into the Church. The reason for this location is because Baptism is the Sacrament of initiation or entrance into the Christian community of the people of God. Before one properly shares in the prophetic kingship and priesthood of Christ one is consecrated to that work by Baptism.

The person to be baptized steps down into the baptistry for the sacrament and then steps up and walks through the gates into Church after the baptism. This signifies our going into the tomb and dying with Christ and then our rising with Him to new life. This new life in God is signified in the waters and words of Baptism. In our church the pouring out of light as portrayed in the faceted windows gives us the distinct impression of God's life pouring into the new born Christian.

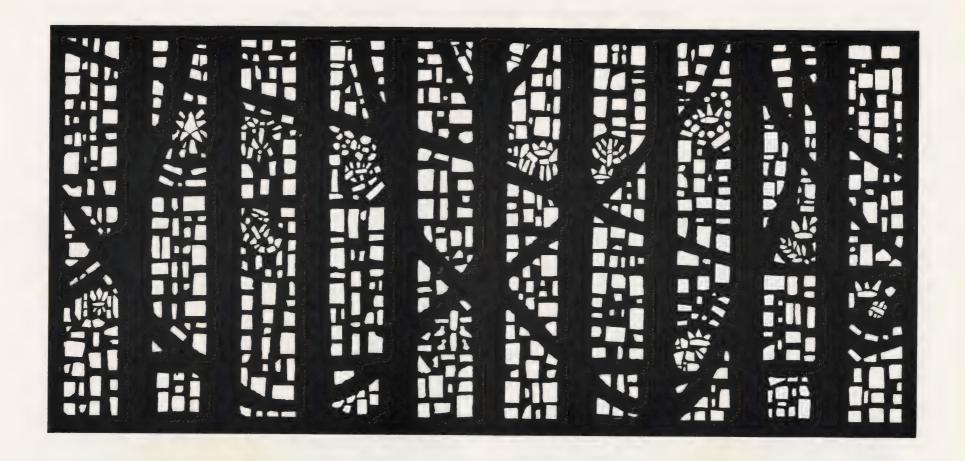
To be christened then is to be consecrated to the prophetic, kingly and priestly work of Christ and to live His life within ourselves so that we might say with St. Paul, "I no longer live, but Christ lives within me."

## We live in Christ

One of the most meaningful actions of the liturgy is the symbolic act of the people of God bringing their gifts to the altar. This Offertory procession represents the giving of ourselves to the Father. In an ideal offertory procession not only the water and wine, altar breads and candles would be brought to the altar but also our gifts to the poor, in money or kind; as well as some gift from our daily life that symbolizes the consecration of our daily work or recreation to God.



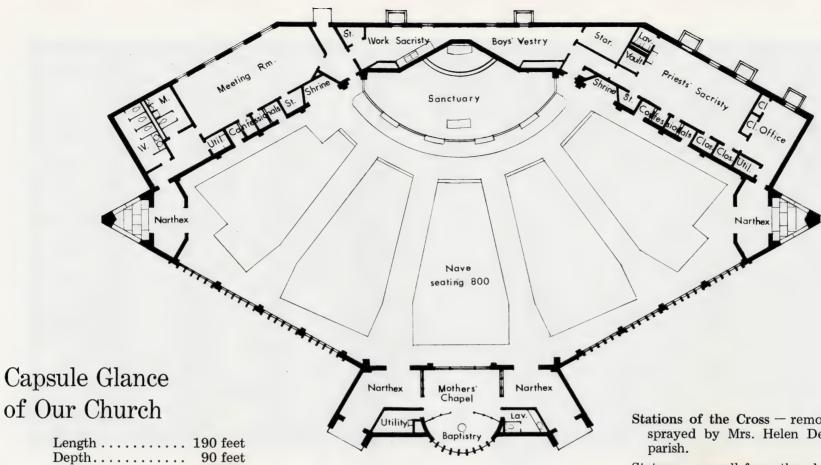




One of the most beautiful features of our Church is the symbolism contained in the forty panels of faceted glass windows which envelope the whole back wall of the church. The idea is that Mary's mantle shields and protects the people of God. The forty-eight glorious titles given to the Mother of God in the Litany of Mary (also called the Litany of Loretto) are contained in artistic symbolism in the forty panels. Pictured above are panels twenty six to thirty five. These give us the titles: "Gate of Heaven", "Morning Star", "Health of the Sick" (notice the cane and

crutch), "Refuge of Sinners" (notice the serpent), "Comforter of the Afflicted", and "Help of Christians". The next five panels portray the first of Mary's Queenly titles: "Queen of Angels, Queen of Patriarch", "Queen of Apostles", etc.

The multi-colored chunks of faceted glass remind us that the beauty of Mary's love comes to all men in every form and way. "You are all beautiful, O Mary! You are the glory, you are the joy, you are the honor of our people".



Air Conditioner - 80 ton capacity tied in with hot air ducts. All installed by Heine Heating and Air Conditioning.

Height inside ..... 30 feet

Height .....

36 feet

Carpeting - 1300 square yards of a special weave made specifically for St. Mary's Church of blue green and gold acrylic yarn. Whitmore Carpet did all of the work.

Organ — a Hammond Electronic two console donated some years ago by Father Shaefers now refinished by Wayne Calkins of the parish.

Pews — Red oak — cantilever ends — Hamlin-Murphy kneelers. Made in Waco, Texas by Imperial Woodworking Co.

Resurrection Plague — 4500 lbs. 17 feet high. 6 feet wide. Made in Detroit of natural aggregate imbedded in a white matryx. It is the largest ever done by this firm.

Roof — hip shaped — double insulation. 2 x 6 deck coved with 60 lbs. asbestos shingle.

Sanctuary — 50 feet wide

Seating Capacity — 800 adults

Stations of the Cross — remodelled and gold sprayed by Mrs. Helen DePompei of the

Statues — are all from the old church except the child Jesus added to Mary and Joseph forming the Holy Family Shrine.

Steeple - anodized aluminum designed by Thomas Koehl and fabricated by Cleveland Iron Works.

Walls — exterior — prefabricated panels with natural aggregate stone finish. Interior red oak panels stained darker than pews for contrast.

Windows — are of faceted glass — chunks chipped to give a light gathering effect. The work was done by Holzheimers' Interiors Inc.

## Introducing Our Social Center

The second phase of the St. Mary's building program has been the reconstruction of the old church. After a series of meetings in the fall of 1969 with the parish building commission, tentative plans were drawn up to change the church into a social center. The work of removing the church pews and inner walls of the sanctuary began in the second week of December.

A parish team of volunteer workers under the direction of Father Gonser labored the greater part of a month to prepare the way for the actual construction of the Social Center. By the third week of January, 1970, a team of over forty men involving all the building trades began the interior work. Within sixty days the Social Center progressed to a point that the men could point out with pride the many outstanding features of the building. The main hall serves a dual purpose

as a gymnasium with a full size basketball and volley ball court and as a banquet center. A fully equipped gas kitchen area will provide many banquets and school lunches. A dressing room for the girls is on the main floor while the boy's locker room and showers have been relocated in the basement. A full size meeting room has been built over the kitchen area. All of this work, with the exception of the basketball equipment, has been donated by the parishioners at a great savings to the parish.

The first activity of the Social Center was held on April 11, 1970. Over 300 parishioners and guests watched the CYO basketball teams play members of the PTU, faculty, coaches and priests of the parish. All agree that this new Social Center is a big step forward in developing the social and athletic programs of the parish.



# Our Present Team



Henry Mazur



Florence Dicker



Marilyn Corsi



Judy Chizmar



Frank Basa



Raymond Bernaciak



Joseph Jancsurak



Helen Kohn



Joseph Mazzone



Anthony Romito



Martin Pudelski



Gloria DeLambo



Jean Varga



Richard Stinchcomb



Stephen Szaraz



James Pasek



Clarence Stadler



Edward Hrdlicka



Mike Lachowski



Russel Mone



Don Herbkersman



Moses Tomko



Mary Riley



Cecelia Shedlock



George Drabik



**Edward Hardy** 

"The laity are gathered together in the People of God and make up the body of Christ under one head. Whoever they are, they are called upon as living members, to expend all their energy for the growth of the Church and its continuous sanctification. For this very energy is a gift of the Creator and a blessing of the Redeemer."

(Constitution on the Church)

Parish Council	S	St. Mary's PTU		Ushers	
V. Pres. Florence Corr. Secy. Judith C	Chizmar 2nd V. Pres. on Corsi Rec. Secy.	Jean Varga Anna Mae Mould June Washko Rhita Garris	Stephen Estok Michael Yusko George Drellishak George Drabik, Jr.	Frank Duale Frank Milicia George Timko Edward Hino	
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Patrick Riley Nanc Josephine Kmiotek Dolores M Edna Bailey Betty	Agrusa Secy. Pojman Treasurer	Gloria DeLambo Rose Corsi Madeline Timm Mary Berry	Church Congression George Joe Starnoni		
Arline Ovacek Richard Stino	hcomb	Ushers Club		Lectors — Commentators	
Holy Nama Conintry	Directo	Director — Stephen Szaraz		Captain — Edward Hardy	
Secy. Ray	Wiggins Edward Hrdlick Janoco Russell Mone	Captains  Clarence Stadler  a Michael Lachowski  Moses Tomko  ald Herbkersman	Steven Ciuni Joseph Mazzone Otto Beck Frank Prior Henry Mazur	Thomas Sabo Earl Byers Walter Fifer Lawrence Aguier Bernard Brosnan	

# Christian Education of Youth

"Finally, the office of educating belongs by a unique title to the church, not merely because she deserves recognition as a human society capable of educating, but most of all because she has the responsibility of announcing the way of salvation to all men, of communicating the life of Christ to those who believe, and of assisting them with ceaseless concern so that they may grow into the fullness of that same life. As a mother, the Church is bound to give these children of hers the kind of education through which their entire lives can be penetrated with the spirit of Christ, while at the same time she offers her services to all peoples by way of promoting the full development of the human person, for the welfare of earthly society and the building of a world fashioned more humanly."

Declaration of Christian Education



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Sister Mary Jovita Sister Mary Gregory Miss Judith Chizmar Sister Mary Matthias Sister Mary Andrea Sister Mary Christine Sister Mary Germaine Sister Mary Seraphine Mr. Vincent Belsito
Mr. Denis Williams
Mrs. Jean Jaken
Mrs. Laura Sike
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Mr. Chas. Morelli, Prin. Sister M. Thomas Aquinas Miss Judy Chizmar Sister Mary Alphonse Mr. Chris Walsh Mr. James Ols Mr. David Semon Mr. Don Herbkersman Rev. Mr. Alan Alexander Mr. Thomas Fiore Mrs. Ellen Adams Rev. Mr. Frank Basa Mr. David Easterday Mr. George Smiga

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sister Mary Gregory Sister Mary Andrea Mr. Chris Walsh Miss Carol Hricik Mrs. Arline Ovacek Miss Marilyn Corsi Miss Maureen Collins Mrs. Joann Ciuni Mrs. Kay Wancheck Mr. James Kaiser Miss Ann Phalen Miss Janet Drabik Mr. Edward Schwet, Jr. Miss Georgene Timko Misses Ann & Kathy Popelka Miss Theresa O'Bryan Sister Mary Germaine Miss Nancy Tomko



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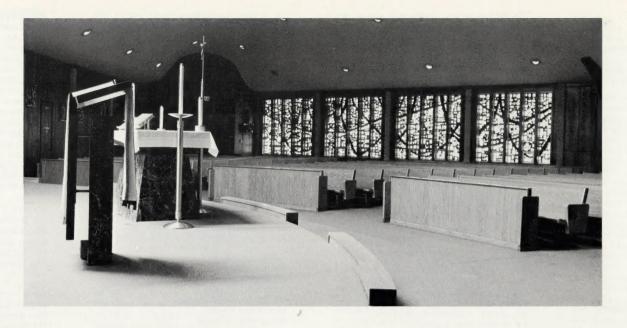
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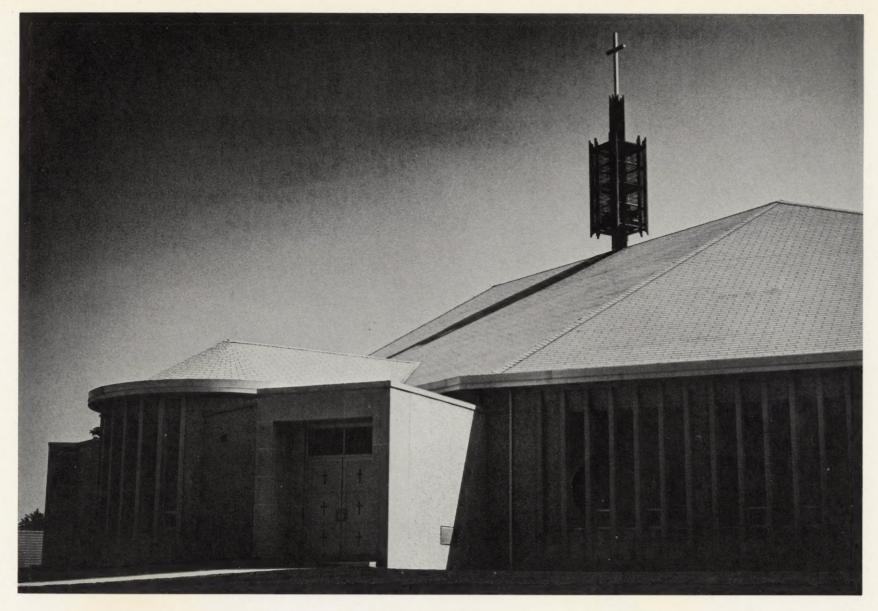
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#### **Dedication and Mass**

Bishop Clarence G. Issenmann — presiding Fr. Michael J. O'Boyle — Chaplain Rev. Frank J. Basa — Chaplain

Bishop William M. Cosgrove — Dedicator — Celebrant

#### Concelebrants

Fr. Albert A. Karper

Fr. Francis M. Paik

Fr. George J. Drops

Fr. Joseph R. Buescher

Fr. John A. Clark - Homilist

Mr. Joseph Mazzone — Commentator Mr. Henery Mazur — Reader of the 1st Lesson Mr. Thomas Fiore — Reader of the 2nd Lesson

### **Offertory Procession**

Mr. Frank Basa Mr. Joseph Jancsurak Miss Judith Chizmar Mrs. Florence Dicker Mr. Raymond Bernaciak Mr. Anthony Romito Miss Marilyn Corsi Mrs. Helen Kohn

Mrs. Mary Riley — Organist

June 21, 1970 4:00 P.M.

